CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Several plants belonging to the precision engineering and optical group called Meopta have been manufacturing since 1953 a new type of aiming telescope for field artillery, which is intended for direct fire against well defined targets. The telescope was field-tested during the fall maneuvers of 1953. It should replace the system previously used, that is, measurement of the firing distance by the battery commander and adjustment through a series of progressively smaller brackets.

2. The Meopta plant of Pardubice[1] turns out from 10 to 12 complete aiming telescopes per day. It is known, however, that other Czechoslovak plants are also mass-producing the same type of telescope, and for this reason it is difficult to estimate how many of these telescopes are produced in the entire country.

3. The Prostejov (N 49-28, E 17-07) plant, which formerly belonged to the Opta group,[1] turns out lenses and prisms for the aiming telescope, and in its own precision engineering department turns out discs (or arcs) which show degrees and fractions of degrees. It also produces steel tubes. Other precision parts are supplied by the Brno Armament Works (Zbrojovka Brno) National Enterprise in Brno.

4. The telescope is four-power and is equipped with a tachymeter which makes it possible to determine the distance without the use of the telemeter. The diaphragm supporting the tachymeter can be turned so that on one side compensation is made for the axis of the telescope, and on the other compensation is made for the object to be observed with the tachymeter which is then reproduced in a single image. The aiming telescope can be moved in two concentric charts divided into notches. The first gives the main angle, while the second gives the angle of correction for the battery. The adjustment of the graduated charts is accomplished by means of a slanted screw. The whole telescope is manufactured of stainless steel. The lens

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has a diameter of 48 millimeters and is located in a double eccentric. The rectangular prism has a length of 50 millimeters, and the lateral faces have a dimension of 50 by 50 millimeters. The lens can move a distance of 240 millimeters, while the eyepiece can move a distance of 60 millimeters. The horizontal movement covers an arc of 20 degrees. The aiming telescope is adjusted in such a manner that the tachymetric constant always will give a whole decimal number, such as 10 or 100, so that it is easy to determine the distance within about 50 meters. The device has good luminosity, equal to 48/4 = 12. This gives good visibility even under unfavorable conditions. This is the best luminosity obtained in any telescope manufactured in Czechoslovakia. The capacity of four-power makes it possible for this telescope to distinguish clearly objects even at a distance of 7,000 meters, which is about the average maximum distance for field artillery guns.

5. It is believed that this new aiming telescope for field artillery will also be used by the Soviet artillery.

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